

During this past Thanksgiving break, my constituent, Abhishek Gupta, read several articles in local newspapers describing the unfortunate situation of many poor and needy families in his local community and around the world. The eleventh grade student set himself the lofty goal of raising \$50,000 in order to promote and combat this cause. With encouragement from his parents and help from several local students, Abhishek created a non-profit organization called "Clothes, Food & Education for the Poor & Needy" to help less fortunate families.

Finding corporate sponsors to pay for operational expenses, Abhishek appealed to an received contributions from the local community members who responded with both enthusiasm and compassion. In the end, their goal was exceeded by raising \$60,000 in just a few weeks. The money was donated to the Sun-Sentinel Children's Fund, the Miami Herald Wishbook in Southeast Florida, and to victims in Central America affected by Hurricane Mitch. In a very short time, the once bold idea developed not only a reality, but into an overwhelming success.

In December 1998, Lynn Stephenson, R.N., and Abhishek Gupta were invited to accompany a medical team on a mission of mercy to Honduras and Nicaragua from 12/26/98 through 12/31/98. In their possession were 120 boxes of food, clothing and medical supplies for distribution. In the three days the team of doctors was in Central America, they were met by an overwhelming number of patients to whom they provided badly needed medical treatment. By the end of the three days, they had seen a total of 594 patients.

Mr. Speaker, "Clothes, Food and Education for the Poor and Needy" is committed to supporting needy families and education in South Florida and around the world. The organization will continue to seek contributions for this worthy cause. Their vision is to make this an effort that continues throughout the year, thus creating the possibility of having a positive effect on the lives of people who are less fortunate.

#### H.R. 436, THE GOVERNMENT WASTE, FRAUD & ERROR REDUCTION ACT

#### HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 1999

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, Congress acted responsibly to reduce government waste last week, voting 419-1 to pass H.R. 436, the Government Waste, Fraud & Error Reduction Act.

This common-sense measure empowers federal agencies to collect delinquent debt and it bars individuals from receiving aid or participating in federal programs if they have refused to pay back money borrowed from the government. This tough-on-debt approach is justified for individuals who knowingly seek the assistance of the Federal Government, but choose to defraud taxpayers by not paying back their debts. On a yearly basis, Congress will receive reports from federal agencies detailing debt collection procedures and outstanding debts of \$1 million or more. With reinvoiced, streamlined debt collection mechanisms

in place, the Federal Government will be able to use hard-earned taxpayer money more efficiently.

One important provision of H.R. 436 will allow social security benefits to be scaled back for individuals who owe large amounts of child support. For many working and single-parent families, child support payments are essential ingredients for success in raising children. I believe this bill will ease the burden on working families.

I was pleased to support this legislation and make good on my pledge to reduce government waste whenever possible.

#### IN SUPPORT OF THE WIRELESS PRIVACY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1999

#### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 1999

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to submit for the RECORD that I would have voted "yes" if I'd been present for the vote on the Wireless Privacy Enhancement Act of 1999.

This important legislation strengthens and clarifies prohibitions on electronic eavesdropping.

Mr. Speaker, specifically, this legislation makes it illegal to intentionally intercept calls or to intentionally divulge the content of private calls. Additionally, it increases the penalties for violators and requires the FCC to investigate violations.

This legislation is essentially the same wireless scanner legislation that the House of Representatives overwhelmingly approved last session.

As an original co-sponsor of the Wireless Privacy Enhancement Act of 1999, I'm pleased my colleagues saw fit to pass the legislation by a 403 to 3 vote margin. As I stated before, had I been present for this vote, I would have joined my colleagues in their near unanimous support for this legislation.

#### TRIBUTE TO CHIEF RANDALL W. GASTON

#### HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 1999

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the career of Chief Randall W. Gaston of the Anaheim Police Department. On February 25, 1999, at age 54, Chief Gaston passed away at the Anaheim Memorial Medical Center. Chief Gaston is survived by his wife Linda and has four grown children, Allison, Bryan, Aaron and Debbie and two grandchildren.

The Anaheim Police Department is said to have been run as a family under the leadership of Chief Gaston. As a 9-year old, I remember becoming a part of this family when I was named Anaheim Police Chief for the day. I toured the station, met the officers and saw firsthand the inner workings of the department. I remember I felt very welcome.

Chief Gaston began working for the Anaheim Police Department in 1965. Randy rose

quickly through the Department and was promoted to Lieutenant in 1973. In 1982, Randy graduated from the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia and was later promoted to Captain in 1983. On January 11, 1994, Randy was appointed Chief of Police.

During his tenure, crime rates fell 12% over the span of 2 years in Orange County. This tremendous achievement has been made possible only through the hard work, dedication to duty and personal sacrifice inspired by Chief Gaston.

Randy is remembered as an honest man who often laughed at himself and who enjoyed staying out of the limelight. Yet his community policing program is recognized as a model for American police forces and for safer communities around the world. He will take with him a remarkable ability to integrate local community volunteers into the police force structure to help combat crime.

I submit for the record an article from February 26, 1999, of the Los Angeles Times which further describes Chief Gaston's outstanding achievements.

While Chief Gaston's leadership will be missed at our Police Department, all citizens of Orange County should take comfort that the Anaheim Police Department will evoke his spirit and legacy through their continued efforts to better our community.

I want to thank Chief Gaston for his service to our fine city, and for his bravery and selfless dedication to his career and his community. This man was a genuine community leader. He not only did his job well, he loved it, and the community he served. We are safe because of his sacrifice.

[From the latimes.com, Neighborhood News, Feb. 26, 1999]

#### ANAHEIM POLICE CHIEF GASTON DIES

(By Jason Kandel, Nancy Wride)

OBITUARY: A 30-YEAR VETERAN OF THE DEPARTMENT, HE COLLAPSES WHILE JOGGING WITH HIS FELLOW OFFICERS

Anaheim Police Chief Randall Gaston, a 30-year veteran of the department he led for more than five years, died Thursday of an apparent heart attack as he was jogging on his lunch hour. He was 54.

Gaston was on a group run in Pearson Park with members of the Anaheim Police Department's special weapons and tactics team when he became ill and dropped out, then collapsed. He was given cardiopulmonary resuscitation by colleagues but could not be revived. An emergency rescue team transported him to Anaheim Memorial Medical Center, where he died at 12:55 p.m. Gaston had filled a vacancy created by the death of Chief Joseph T. Molloy, who also died of a heart attack while exercising. He too was 54.

Shocked and grieving associates remembered Gaston as a highly respected law-enforcement officer and community leader. "As a leader and professional, Chief Gaston was a model public servant," Anaheim Mayor Tom Daly said. "His dedication to the community has been remarkable, and he will be difficult to replace." Scores of uniformed officers and staff workers gathered Thursday afternoon at the Police Department for a flag-lowering ceremony in Gaston's memory. A photo of the chief was displayed in the lobby, surrounded by red, white and blue flowers.

Police Capt. Roger Baker, appointed interim chief by City Manager James D. Ruth, said of Gaston: "He was highly respected by the Anaheim Police Department and the community and will be greatly missed."

Former La Habra Police Chief Steve Staveley was a friend of Gaston for more than 30 years.